

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
(Attorney Docket No.: 109878.124)Applicant(s):  
Patent & Trademark No.:

Ferrari, et al.

09/961,131

Filed: September 21, 2001

For: SCALABLE HIERARCHICAL DATA-DRIVEN NAVIGATION  
SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

Group Art Unit: 2179

Examiner: Chuong, Truc T

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

12/20/04  
DateAnthony Sutton  
Anthony Sutton**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Commissioner:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified patent application are the following documents:

- 1.) Eighth Information Disclosure Statement;
- 2.) Form PTO-1449;
- 3.) Copy of the Written Opinion from PCT/US01/17046; and
- 4.) Return Postcard.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in connection with this matter to Deposit account No. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 12/20/2004

Ayla A. Lari  
Ayla A. Lari  
Registration No. 43,739  
Attorney for Applicants

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP  
60 State Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02109  
Tel: (617) 526-6598  
Fax: (617) 526-5000



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
(Attorney Docket No.: 109878.124)

Applicant(s): Ferrari, et al.  
Serial No.: 09/961,131  
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13/20/04

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Anthony Sutton

**EIGHTH INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner:

Applicants and their attorney are aware of the following publications and information listed on the attached PTO Form 1449, and in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97 hereby submit these documents for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicants state that the publications were cited in a Written Opinion issued in connection with a counterpart Patent Cooperation Treaty Application No. PCT/US01/17046. A copy of the Written Opinion is also enclosed for the Examiner's review. All but two of the documents cited in the Written Opinion have already been disclosed. Copies of the references cited on PTO Form 1449 are not enclosed as the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) has been waived.

It is respectfully requested that the information above be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and that the publications be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. In this regard, it is requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 with the next Patent Office Communication.

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This submission does not represent that a search has been made and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material to patentability or that the listed documents are prior art.

If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits and is therefore submitted as both timely and proper; therefore, no fees are believed to be due.

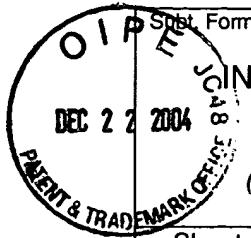
The Commissioner, however, is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 12/20/2004

  
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Ayla A. Lari  
Registration No. 43,739  
Attorney for Applicants

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP  
60 State Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02109  
Tel: (617) 526-6598  
Fax: (617) 526-5000



Supt. Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
IN AN APPLICATION  
*(Use several sheets if necessary)*

Sheet

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OF

1

Docket Number  
109878.124Application Number  
09/961,131Applicant  
Ferrari, et al.

Filing Date

September 21, 2001

Group Art Unit

2179

## U.S. Patent Documents

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,360,227 B1	03/19/2002	Aggarwal et al.	707	102	01/29/1999
	6,571,282 B1	05/27/2003	Bowman-Amuah	709	219	08/31/1999

## Foreign Patent Documents

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

## Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609: Draw Line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy with next communication to applicant.